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PREESALL-WITH-HACKINSALL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR YEAR 1903.

To the Preesall Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present my FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

There were 34 births (18 male and 16 female), and 19 deaths (10 male and 9 female), registered in your Sanitary District during the year 1903, as compared with 38 births and 22 deaths in 1902.

The total acreage of the District is 2,962 statute acres.

The population of the District by the Census of 1901, was 1,423 ; I have estimated it at 1,475 for the year, there being 312 inhabited houses, this allows an average of 4·79 persons to each house.

The birth-rate amounted to 22·71 per 1,000 inhabitants, and the gross death-rate to 12·88 per 1,000, as compared with 26·2 and 15·17 for the previous year.

The death-rate from zymotic diseases at all ages was ·67, as compared with ·69 for the previous year.

There were no deaths from accident, and one sudden death was uncertified and classed as from natural causes.

The death-rate under one year was 2·03 per 1,000 of the population, and the rate of death under one year to 1,000 births is 88, an increase on last year's rate.

The death-rate from Phthisis is ·67.

The death-rate from Diseases of the Respiratory Organs, comprising Pneumonia, Pleurisy, and Bronchitis, is 2·03 per 1,000 as compared with 3·44 of previous year.

The Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages, was as follows :—

At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 5.	5 years and under 15	15 years and under 25.	25 years and under 65.	65 years and upwards.
19	3	—	1	—	7	8

Of the 8 over 65 years, the Ages were :— 70, 71, 73, 75, 75, 77, 81, and 87.

House accommodation is adequate, and, generally speaking, fit for habitation. There are still a number of empty houses—all houses are under the supervision of the Surveyor and Nuisance Inspector.

I have again to regret that I cannot report any progress in respect to the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the District. I must again remind your Council of the urgent want of Sewerage and Drainage, and draw your attention to the danger to health which this entails, and urge your Council to undertake some measures for their improvement.

The Excrement Disposal and emptying of Cesspools is in the populous parts of the District undertaken by the Council, and has increased.

I am sorry to report that the efforts of your Council to obtain a supply of water from the Fylde Water Board has not been successful; this is to be regretted, as the supply at Knott End is very poor in the Summer months.

Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is nil. Smallpox Hospital at Elswick is available for cases.

Disinfection :—There is still no Apparatus. Houses are disinfected by Izal during the illness, and by fumigating with Sulphurous Acid after case is better.

Scarlet Fever suddenly made its appearance in the month of June, there being 7 cases. All seemed to spread in the Infant School, and as the Mistress was also a victim the School was closed for six weeks, and disinfected before re-commencing. There was only one other case in September.

There were four cases of Diphtheria, one in each month of February, March, October, and November.

There were no cases of Enteric Fever.

There was one case of Erysipelas.

Factories and Workshops :—A Register of all Factories and Workshops is kept, there are two Factories and twelve Workshops, including six Bake-houses; these have all been visited and Inspected, and generally fulfil all requirements.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that ten notices have been sent, with the result that seven Cesspools were reconstructed or new ones built. One Privy reconstructed.

During the year one new Slaughter-house has been erected in place of the one which did not comply with the Bye-laws in 1902.

There are only two Slaughter-houses in the District, both of these are now of a modern type, and are kept in good order.

Generally many improvements are being carried out at the suggestion of the Sanitary Inspector, without requiring the Council to use their powers under the "Public Health Act, 1875." On the whole there appears to be a decided improvement in favour of the betterment of the Sanitation of the District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM HENRY ROBINSON,

Fleetwood, March 4th, 1904.

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

